

Application Ser. No. 10/637,888

Title: INDUSTRIAL TANK SUPPORT

Examiner Naschica Morrison, Group Art Unit 3632

Amendment Responsive to Office Action of September 3, 2004

Amendments to the Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A tank support arranged for supporting a tank above a supporting surface, the tank support comprising:

a multiplicity of tubular legs each having ~~a sidewall enclosing a cavity therein~~, a top end and a bottom end; and

a platform coupled to the legs between the top end and the bottom end, said platform ~~including a platform wall enclosing therein a chamber and having a~~ presenting a first surface and an opposite second surface, wherein the first and second surfaces are differently configured, such that when the first surface is above the second surface, the tank support is operable to support a first tank having a first configuration, and further such that when the tank support is inverted so that the second surface is above the first surface, the tank support is operable to support a second tank having a second configuration that is different from the first tank having the first configuration. ~~said first surface having a first tank supporting surface which is configured differently than a second tank supporting surface of the second surface; said platform being elevated above the supporting surface when the legs are resting on the supporting surface with either the first surface above the second surface or the second surface above the first surface.~~

2. (Original) A tank support as set forth in claim 1, wherein the platform includes a central passage.

3. (Currently Amended) A tank support as set forth in claim ~~[[1]]~~ 2, wherein the central passage is substantially circular.

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4. (Currently Amended) A tank support as set forth in claim 2, wherein at least one of the first and second surfaces ~~include~~ includes an edge surrounding a recess with the respective ~~supporting~~ surface located interiorly of the edge and outside the central passage.

5. (Currently Amended) A tank support as set forth in claim 1, wherein the platform includes a platform wall enclosing a chamber and each of the legs includes a sidewall enclosing a cavity therein, such that ~~wherein the chamber of the platform~~ the chamber of the platform is in fluidic communication with at least one of the cavities of the legs.

6. (Currently Amended) A tank support as set forth in claim 1, wherein said first ~~supporting~~ surface is substantially flat and horizontal when the tank support is supported on said legs.

7. (Currently Amended) A tank support as set forth in claim 6, wherein said platform has a central passage and said second ~~supporting~~ surface is sloped inwardly toward said central passage.

8. (Currently Amended) A tank support as set forth in claim 7, wherein said second ~~supporting~~ surface is substantially frustum shaped.

9. (Currently Amended) A tank support as set forth in claim 1, wherein each of said first and second ~~supporting~~ surfaces ~~[[are]]~~ is bounded by a respective edge and said first and second ~~supporting~~ surfaces are recessed relative to their respective surrounding edges.

10. (Original) A tank support as set forth in claim 1, wherein said platform and said legs are unitary and molded of synthetic resin.

11. (Original) A tank support as set forth in claim 1, wherein said legs have a transverse slot.

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12. (Original) A tank support as set forth in claim 11, further including a strap received in said transverse slots of said legs.

13. (Currently Amended) A tank support as set forth in claim ~~[[1]]~~ 5, wherein said multiplicity of legs includes at least four of said legs spaced equidistant around said platform.

14. (Original) A tank support as set forth in claim 13, wherein said platform is substantially rectangular in plan and includes an outer wall having substantially planar wall segments which are substantially tangent to the sidewall of said legs.

15. (Currently Amendment) A tank support as set forth in claim ~~[[13]]~~ 5, wherein said multiplicity of legs includes at least six of said legs spaced equidistant around said platform.

16. (Original) A tank support as set forth in claim 15, wherein said platform is substantially hexagonal in plan and includes an outer wall having substantially planar wall segments which are substantially tangent to the sidewall of the legs.

17. (Original) A tank support as set forth in claim 1, further including a stand coupled to at least one of the legs.

18. (Original) A tank support as set forth in claim 17, including a stirrer mounted on the stand.

19. (Currently Amended) A tank support as set forth in claim ~~[[1]]~~ 5, wherein the top end of at least one of the legs has an opening in the top end for gaining access to the cavity.

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20. (Original) A tank support as set forth in claim 19, including means removably mounted on the top end for covering the opening.

21. (Original) A tank support as set forth in claim 19, wherein the bottom end of said at least one of the legs has a hole therein sized for receiving a threaded fastener.

22. (Original) A tank support as set forth in claim 1, wherein said platform includes portals extending through the platform and located adjacent respective ones of said legs, said platform further including upright interior walls extending between said first and second surfaces and surrounding said portals.

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23. (Currently Amended) A method of mounting first and second tanks having differently configured first and second configurations to a tank support to a supporting surface, comprising the steps of:

providing a tank support having a multiplicity of tubular legs having a top end and a bottom end, ~~the top end including an opening therein and the bottom end including a hole therethrough, the tank support and~~ further including a platform coupled to the legs and adapted for supporting a tank thereon, the platform having a first surface presenting a first configuration and an opposite, second surface presenting a second configuration that is different than the first configuration; and

~~passing a threaded fastener through said hole wherein a portion of the threaded fastener is received in said cavity and whereby said tank support is coupled to said supporting surface by said threaded fastener~~

if the first tank is to be mounted to the tank support, orienting the tank support to a supporting surface such that the first surface is positioned above the second surface so as to present the first surface with the first configuration in position for receiving the first tank thereon; and

if the second tank is to be mounted to the tank support, orienting the tank support to the supporting surface such that the second surface is positioned above the first surface so as to present the second surface with the second, different configuration in a position for receiving the second tank thereon.